

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 5, 2013

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FROM: JOEL MARCUSON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, T&ES

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #2 - FUNDING UPDATE & ACTIONS OF MAJOR
TRANSPORTATION BODIES

ISSUE: Update of funding and actions of major transportation bodies.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Transportation Commission receive the report.

DISCUSSION: This memorandum provides a brief update on funding and/or actions of major regional transportation bodies as they relate to the City.

General funding updates of local, regional and national importance are provided below. Attachment 1 contains the Commission's regular *Monthly Update of Regional Transportation Board Major Actions and Funding*.

City: City Council

At the City Council Public Hearing on May 14, 2013, City Council endorsed the WMATA's strategic plan (*Momentum*). The Commission received a briefing on *Momentum* at its January 2013 meeting and sent comments to General Manager Richard Sarles. Full implementation of *Momentum* requires WMATA to spend an additional \$500 million per year, beyond the \$1 billion which the agency spends annually to fund their capital program.

On May 28, 2013 the City Council adopted a Title VI program for the City. The City is a subrecipient for over \$18.5 million in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds. New FTA guidelines require subrecipients – in addition to direct recipients – to document how the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 are being met. The primary components of Title VI require that the City:

- Ensure that the level and quality of public transportation service is provided in a nondiscriminatory manner;
- Promote full and fair participation in public transportation decision-making without regard to race, color, or national origin; and
- Ensure meaningful access to transit-related programs and activities by persons with limited English proficiency.

State: Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB)

The CTB released a draft Six-Year Improvement Plan (SYIP) for FY 2014-FY2019 on May 15, 2013. A public hearing was held on May 29, 2013 at which the Mayor provided testimony. The City also submitted written testimony. The CTB plans to adopt the SYIP at its June 19 meeting.

State: Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)

The General Assembly passed legislation (SB 1140) requiring that any new transit funds be allocated based on performance, but did not dictate the process or specific performance indicators. The Transit Service Delivery Advisory Committee (TSDAC) was appointed to develop a methodology.

The May 13 meeting of the TSDAC reviewed several performance methods used by agencies such as the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and WMATA. The group also began to discuss various options for allocating the new state transit funds.

Regional: Transportation Planning Board (TPB) and Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA), Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) , Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC)

Transportation Planning Board (TPB)

At the May15, 2013 TPB meeting, the Board was briefed on the changes in the region's commuting patterns since 2007. The Board was also given an update on the development of the TPB Regional Priorities Plan.

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)

The WMATA Board was briefed on the Crystal City-Potomac Yard Transitway, the planned operations, and the proposed branding scheme at the May 9th meeting of the Customer Service and Operations Committee.

Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC)

At the May 5th NVTC meeting, General Manager Richard Sarles of WMATA gave a presentation describing the Momentum strategic plan. The Commission was informed that NVTC was working with subrecipients of FTA funding to adopt Title VI plans.

Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA)

NVTA met on May 23 and discussed the efforts of the working groups that were established to support the implementation of HB 2313. The Project Implementation Working Group presented a list of projects for consideration for FY 2014 funding. The Authority voted to release the list of projects for comment at an open house and public hearing on June 20, 2013. NVTA is anticipated to take action on the project list at its July 25 meeting.

Federal: Funding Updates and Grant Notices of Awards

No significant federal actions occurred during this month.